

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 455

WHEREAS, The Texas Council of Child Welfare Boards provides support to a statewide network of concerned citizens who are endeavoring to address the needs of children in their communities, especially those who are abused and neglected; and

WHEREAS, Child welfare boards originated in 1931, when the Texas Legislature authorized county commissioners courts to appoint boards that would coordinate local protective services for children; at the same time, the legislature created the Division of Child Welfare Services, originally part of the State Board of Control; the division has become Child Protective Services, one of four major programs within the Department of Family and Protective Services; and

WHEREAS, Before 1939, when the state assumed responsibility for the protection of children with the establishment of the State Department of Public Welfare, the county child welfare boards often furnished services to families and children themselves, with guidance from the Division of Child Welfare Services staff; today one of the responsibilities of these boards is to oversee county expenditures for child welfare services; and

WHEREAS, In 1976, regional child welfare advisory councils began to be established, bringing together representatives of county boards, and in 1978 the Texas Council of Child Welfare Boards was created; today the state council is composed of members representing 11 regional councils, which in turn represent 212 county child welfare boards; and

WHEREAS, Members of the Texas Council of Child Welfare Boards collaborate with the staffs of Child Protective Services

and other agencies and organizations to promote services to abused and neglected children and to prevent the occurrence of abusive treatment; the scale of the challenge facing the council and allied groups is suggested by the estimate that 8.5 percent of Texas children are at risk for some sort of abuse or neglect; and

WHEREAS, The Texas Council of Child Welfare Boards is committed to creating a society in which all children know the security of a loving, nurturing, and safe environment, and its work has ramifications that touch all Texans; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 79th Legislature, hereby welcome representatives of the Texas Council of Child Welfare Boards to the State Capitol and commend all those associated with that organization for their continuing dedication to protecting the children of the Lone Star State.

Harris

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on March 31, 2005.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate